

# **December 2017: Holiday Season is Upon Us!**

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It's that time of the year! Lots of community events going on this month as well as opportunities to give back to those less fortunate. I hope you are able to join me in some of them and that you have a safe and happy holiday season with your loved ones. Please remember to share this newsletter to any neighbors or friends in the Sterling district who are not currently receiving my emails so that they too may benefit from the information. Additionally, never hesitate to send me any information you think is worth sharing in any future newsletters. Thank you.

## **Community Meeting on January 11**



On January 11, 2018, I will be holding a community meeting on the Augusta Drive and Maple Leaf Pl/Jennings Farm Dr pedestrian safety project. We will be discussing proposed solutions and the timeline for moving forward. Concerned residents are encouraged to attend.

When: Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 7 pm.

Where: Dominion High School, 21326 Augusta Dr, Sterling.

#### 15 Days Left to Enroll in Health Care

The Health Insurance Marketplace is currently open and will close on December 15, 11:59 pm. Most individuals will only be able to enroll in a health plan during this window. You can enroll online at <a href="healthcare.gov">healthcare.gov</a> or by phone at 1-800-318-2596. If you want to view your options before enrolling, check out the Window Shopping tool at <a href="https://www.healthcare.gov/see-plans/">https://www.healthcare.gov/see-plans/</a>.

There's only 15 days to view available plans, make decisions, and either renew or enroll in an ACA marketplace plan. If you need assistance enrolling or need advice, you can contact Enroll VA, a local nonprofit providing free assistance at 1-888-392-5132.





## Dec 2: Holiday in the Park

Join Claude Moore Park from 3:30-6 pm this Saturday, December 2nd and go back in time to see how people in Colonial and Victorian times celebrated the holidays. You can visit the period-decorated Lanesville Ordinary and explore Frogshackle Nature Center. Make crafts, enjoy hot chocolate, cider, and more! Help your neighbors by donating a new hat or gloves for the "Winter Warmth Tree." FREE family event!

## **Dec 2: Tree Lighting at Cascades Overlook**

Following Holiday in the Park, come by the Cascades Overlook Town Center for its second annual Tree Lighting ceremony on from 5-8 pm. Santa is planning to arrive at 5 pm and from 5-7 pm, there will be dance and music performances provided by the Sterling Ballet, Dominion High School Jazz and latin bands and the Picwick Singers. The tree lighting will occur at 7 pm. Free smores and hot chocolate will be provided to children. RSVP on Facebook.



#### **Toys for Tots Collection Drive & Santa Visit**



**RSVP** on Facebook.

Help bring joy to the kids in the community by donating new and unwrapped toys! The Sterling Foundation has partnered with the U.S. Marine Corps in their Toys for Tots program and is collecting toys at the following locations in Sterling through December 13:

- Sterling Community Center (120 Enterprise St)
- Sterling Library (22330 S. Sterling Blvd, Ste A117)
- Claude Moore Rec Center (46105 Loudoun Park Ln)
- Crooked Run Brewing (22455 Davis Dr, Ste 120)

On Sunday, December 17th, Santa will be dropping by Joe's Pizzeria (22360 S Sterling Blvd #103) to collect all the toys donated. Come by to celebrate the end of Toys for Tots and bring your kids beginning at 5:30 pm for a FREE pizza and drink. A toy donation is highly encouraged.

#### Dec 13: Gather to Learn About Sterling's Past

The Sterling Historical, Heritage and Preservation Committee (SHHPC) invites you to learn about Sterling's past with original residents. Before Sterling Park existed, Sterling was a farming community with an airport sitting in the middle of cow fields. Come learn about what folks used to live, work and entertain themselves. The lecture is the first of a three-part series. The lecture is taking place at the Sterling Library on December 13th, from 6:30-9 pm.





## **Dec 15: Tacos & Beer for Toys for Tots**

On December 15, from 7-9 pm, there will be a Toys for Tots promotional event at <u>Crooked Run Brewing</u> in Sterling. Come enjoy tacos and a brew, and if possible, bring a new, unwrapped toy for a child in need. There will be live entertainment; the event is open to the public and coordinated by the <u>Sterling Foundation</u>.

When: Friday, December 15, 5:30-6:30 pm Location: 22455 Davis Drive, Ste 120, Sterling RSVP and invite friends on Facebook!

## Dec 16: YMCA Holiday Fun & Open House

Bring the family to see Santa & Mrs. Claus to take your own photos at the YMCA's Holiday Fun & Open House. The pictures are free, but the memories are priceless! There will be a letters to Santa activity, craftsmaking, story time with Ms. Claus and refreshments. The event is open to the public and free. Download the flyer here.

When: Saturday, December 16, 9 am-12 pm Location: 624 W. Church Rd, Sterling



## **Home Improvement Programs Offered to Help Gear Up for Winter**



With winter approaching, a quick reminder that the county offers home improvement and repair programs that can help qualified homeowners prepare for cold weather. The programs can help make homes more energy efficient through weatherization repairs such as installing a new heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) unit, a new roof or new windows. They may also help with correcting code violations, addressing health and safety issues, repairing plumbing, electrical, HVAC systems and more.

If you're in need of this assistance, you can learn more at loudoun.gov/homeimprovement or by calling Robert McCarthy at 703-777-0353.

## **Sterling Library's Corner**

Our local library has great programs for kids, teens and adults every month. I've included some of them below.

**Social Media Basics**: December 4th 7 pm & December 5th 1 pm. Learn about some popular and useful sites including Facebook, LinkedIn, Pinterest, and Twitter. For adults.

**Teen Tuesdays: Gingerbread House Competition:** December 5th 4:30 pm. Compete in teams to create the best gingerbread house! All materials provided.



**College Prep Club:** December 14th 7:00 pm. Discuss topics to help you prepare for college such as entrance exams, applications, financial aid, scholarships, and career options. Grades 9-12.

MILL Studio Holiday Series: Program a 3D Printer: 12/12/2017, 7:00 PM Use a 3D printer to create crafts that can be used for your holiday decorating. For adults.

**Family Fun: Cookie Party:** 12/16/2017, 2:30 - 3:30 pm. Enjoy cookie-themed crafts and activities. And join us for a cookie swap! Those interested in participating in the exchange: bring two dozen homemade cookies and a copy of your recipe to the library, where you'll swap and share sweets with other party-goers. For all ages.

To view the full list of December programs and events, click here. Follow them on Facebook!

#### **Upcoming Events & Opportunities to Get You in the Holiday Spirit!**

**December 2: Breakfast & Lunch with Santa** (7:30-11 am; 11 am-12 pm). Get into the holiday spirit at Claude Moore Rec Center! Dress for the weather and go on a candy cane hunt with Santa. Show your specially-marked candy canes and get prizes. There will be muffins, fruit, drinks, and more! Kids will decorate and take a wooden keepsake ornament. \$8 per child (ages 1-12) and \$4 per adult. Preregistration is required; call 571-258-3600.

**December 2: Beer Release and LCFFF Fundraiser**. Join the Loudoun County Fire Fighters Foundation in their fundraiser at Crooked Run Brewery in Sterling. A portion of their new release will go towards the foundation. <u>RSVP</u> on Facebook.

**December 2: Calling Teens: Wrap Holiday Gifts for Hours!** The Sterling Library is looking for patrons to volunteer. Come to the library and inquire about the program!

**December 6: Last Job Orientation at the Sterling Library**. Crossroad Jobs is having its last job orientation of the year at 10:30 am and is being held by bilingual job counselor, Yanci Portillo. If you can't make it, call their office for an appt at 703-771-4112.

**December 9: Lunch with Santa!** (All ages) Santa will join participants in the Sterling Community Center gym to play games, make crafts, and take pictures. Pre-registration is required. Event is from 11 am to 12:30 pm and cost is \$8 per child and \$4 for parent lunch. Register online at <a href="https://www.loudoun.gov/webtrac">www.loudoun.gov/webtrac</a>.

**December 14: Moonbounce Party with Santa** (Ages 1-5). From 10 am to 11:30 am, the Sterling Community Center gym will be turned into a holiday party with lots of music, moonbounces, crafts, games and a special visit from Santa. Bring your camera for pictures. \$6 per child. Register online at www.loudoun.gov/webtrac.

**December 16: Swim With Santa at Claude Moore Rec Center.** The 9 am to 10:30 am event will include pictures with Santa, water fun games and a special holiday treat. Please send child in bathing suit with a change of clothes in a separate bag. Parent participation is required; \$10 per child (ages 3-12);

Register online at www.loudoun.gov/webtrac.

Ongoing-December 14: Letters From Santa (Ages 10 and under). Your child will be thrilled to receive a personalized letter from Santa. Completed forms need to be returned to the Sterling Community Center before December 14. Email <a href="mailto:Kubra.Alam@loudoun.gov">Kubra.Alam@loudoun.gov</a> for more information. \$5 per child.

#### Loudoun County Board of Supervisors www.loudoun.gov/Sterling 703-777-0204

### STAY CONNECTED





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#### About our service provider

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